14. A dextran-coated surface according to claim 13, wherein said mass-sensitive sensor is a surface acoustic waves conductive component.

15. A dextran-coated surface according to claim 1, wherein said carrier surface is a surface of an optical or electro-mechanical sensor.

REMARKS

In view of the rejection of the claims under 35 USC §112, claim 1 has been amended so as to make it clear that the BSA photolinker is a particular photolinker.

The subject matter of claim 2 has been included in claim 1 and claim 2 has been canceled.

Claim 3 has been rewritten as an independent claim, that is, a combination of claims 1, 3 and 4.

Claim 4 has been canceled.

Claims 11 – 15 have been added corresponding to claims 6 – 10, but dependent on the independent claim 3.

Concerning the Examiner's rejection of claims under 35 USC § 103, the claims have been amended to define the invention in greater detail in order to prevent misconstruing the inventive idea.

The structure as defined in the amended claims provides a surface area which remains active over a long period on which a multitude of functional groups can be retained in a simple manner as described in the description, bottom of page 6 and 7.

This result can be obtained only by a co-immobilization of the dextrin with a photolinker as defined in claim 1 and claim 3.

Such a structure is not disclosed in any of the references cited earlier (US 5 563 056, US 5 529 914, US 5 858 802), which have been discussed already in the response dated July 7, 2002.

And since such a structure is not disclosed in, nor in any way suggested by, any of these references, a combination of these references cannot possibly lead to the structure as defined in claims 1 and 3 of the present application.

Reconsideration of claims 1 and 3 is respectfully requested.

Claims 6 to 10 and 11 to 15 relate to particular embodiments of the arrangements of claim 1 and, respectively, claim 3, on which claims they are dependent.

They should therefore be considered to be patentable together with these claims.

Reconsideration of these dependent claims and allowance of claims 1, 3, and 6 - 15 is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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MARKUP VERSION TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

The claims have been amended as follows:

1. A dextran-coated surface on a carrier having a carrier surface with a connection between dextran disposed as coating on the carrier surface formed by a [T-BSA] photolinker, said dextran-coating being attached to said carrier [surface] by co-immobilization of a mixture of the dextran and [the T-BSA] a 3-trifluoromethyl-3-(m-isocyanophenyl)-diazirine (TRIMID)-modified protein as photolinker.

Claim 2 is canceled.

3. A dextran-coated carrier [surface according to claim 1, wherein said] having a surface with a connection between the dextran disposed as coating on the carrier formed by a photolinker [is] , said dextran coating being formed on said carrier by co-immobilization of a mixture of the dextran and a 3-trifluoromethyl-3-(m-isocyanophenyl)-diazirine (TRIMID)-modified [polysaccharide] amminodextran.

Claim 4 is canceled.

5. A dextran coated surface on a carrier according to claim [2] 1, wherein said protein is a bovine serum albumin (BSA).

Add new claims:

11. A dextran-coated surface according to claim 3, wherein said carrier surface is coated with a polymer film.

12. A dextran-coated surface according to claim 11, wherein said polymer film consists of one of polyimide and poly-(p-xylylene).

13. A dextran-coated surface according to claim 3, wherein said carrier surface is a surface of a mass-sensitive sensor.

14. A dextran-coated surface according to claim 13, wherein said mass-sensitive sensor is a surface acoustic waves conductive component.

15. A dextran-coated surface according to claim 1, wherein said carrier surface is a surface of an optical or electro-mechanical sensor.